Long waiting time for surgery in AIIMS

3513. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the main factors responsible for the long waiting time for surgery in All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) inspite of very high doctor-patient ratio;

(b) the number of patients admitted for surgery and how many of them were operated during the last three years; and

(c) how Government are contemplating to reduce this gap and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The main factors responsible for long waiting time for Surgery in the AIIMS are:—

(i) Too many patients coming to OPD need admission and Surgery;
(ii) Shortage of beds to admit patients for Surgery;
(iii) Shortage of Operation Theatre time.

(b) As per information received from AIIMS, the patients admitted for surgery and major operations performed during the last three years are as under:—

Year	No. of Admission	No. of major Operations
1998-1999	25411	14443
1999-2000	29245	17051
2000-2001	30681	16969

(c) Waiting time can be reduced by improving the infrastructure of AIIMS as well as other hospitals in the city and States from where the patients come.

Prevalence of Measles

3514. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Measles claims 13 lives in Tripura," which appeared in the Indian Express, dated the 23rd February, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the prevalence of Measles in other parts of the country in general and Tamil Nadu, in particular; and

(d) the concrete steps to eradicate it for the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) As per information received from the Government of Tripura, outbreak of Measles was reported from Belona Sub Division under South Tripura District. The location-wise number of cases and deaths is given below:—

Place	Treated Measles cases	Death from Measles
1. Giddi Kumar Para	60	1
2. Kalapania	4	—
3. Phalnlmog Para	3	—
4. Sindhuk Para	2	—
5. Purba Sabroom G/S	6	—
TOTAL:	76	1

(c) The number of cases of Measles reported in the country and Tamil Nadu for the last three years is given below:—

Year	India	Tamil Nadu
1998	37905	*NR
1999	50102	115
2000	37969	162

*Not reported

(d) Under Universal Immunization Programme, vaccination for control of Measles is given throughout the country.

Ignorance of ENT-related diseases

3515. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ENT area has been ignored and neglected by people for long;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government to spread awareness to tell the importance of ENT-related ailments;